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THE DAILY HERALD.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1886.

DANGER AHEAD.

It has been seen that during the current biennial period the Government will have, provided the two million loan be negotiated, in addition to an enhanced ordinary revenue, an immense amount of money to expend—probably three and a half millions, or, including the expenditure under the ordinary appropriations, six and a half millions. Withal, the Ministry will not have the check of impecuniosity on their discretion in disposing of that vast sum. Last period, it will be remembered, the treasury was very low throughout, and His Majesty, in proroguing the Legislature, had, in commenting on the disproportionate size of the Appropriation Act, intimated that the Ministers would have to exercise discretion in expending the revenue and give preference to the more necessary objects of outlay. There is no such deterrent before the Ministerial eyes for the spending of the unprecedented amount expected to be at disposal this period. This administration, unless it change its disposition from the past, may be counted upon to go the full length of its tether. Many of the appropriations are unnecessary and even foolish, but with abundance of money the Government have no option, even if they have the inclination, to deter their expenditure. An era of extravagance will be ushered in, which will beggar every period of improvidence in the past. Doubtless with all this, the nation will obtain very desirable permanent improvements, but at the same time it will become habituated to look upon borrowed money as the greatest of all resources, which is a fatal frame of mind for any body politic. With the lavish expenditure of public funds would assuredly come a certain degree of business inflation, increasing seriously the danger of the state. When all the adventitiously procured capital is exhausted, the nation will not be satisfied to go back to the economical conditions of the past. She will cry, like the daughters of the horse leech, "Give, give!" There can scarcely be doubt in any thoughtful mind that if six millions of dollars are expended during this period, as arrangements are making for the spending of that amount, another loan will be wanted at the next Legislature. Away the Government will go again, this time under national pressure, in search of foreign bondholders to take a first mortgage on the kingdom. Is there not danger ahead?

NOTES AND COMMENTS.  
What with the electric light, the street railway and the DAILY HERALD, Honolulu will be pretty well set up in civilization during the current period.

Unless the Chinese can be induced to change their national peculiarity of turning to the left, they should be compelled to carry headlights after dark.

It was so sultry in the Assembly chamber yesterday that a proposal was discussed to provide members with fans. Apparently the windbags of the House cannot maintain a current of air.

Perhaps everybody has not caught on to the fact that Mr. L. Montgomery Mather's poem to the Princess was an acoustic. If he wants anybody to give him an acoustic, he should tell for once what L. stands for.

The gallant minority of the Finance Committee was sustained in one of his sensible recommendations, by the Legislature yesterday, and a few thousand dollars are thereby saved to the country. If Mr. Dickey was not a gentleman, we

should say he is "a brick," and a score and five like him would make a good wall against misappropriation.

Time will tell who is mistaken in the estimate of revenue from the Postal Savings Bank. If, as hinted the other day, the Government will turn a somersault on immigration at the third reading of the Appropriation Bill, there may be a few thousand more Japanese brought in. As a proportion of all the earnings of those people must go into the bank, according to the treaty, a pretty large share of the million will be made up from that source. Then, as to withdrawals, there is no fear that the bulk of all deposits will not remain long enough to be handled by the Government. Therefore, our argument is intact.

At the brilliant dinner party given a few weeks ago in London by J. R. Os-good, the conversation was for a time about the Bayreuth festival, and some lavish praise was bestowed upon Wagner, both as a poet and a composer. Finally the opinion was expressed that in coming time Wagner will be ranked far above either Beethoven or Schiller. There was a moment's silence, no one seeming to be inclined to reply to this; and then Alma Tadema brought the subject to a close by remarking quietly: "I quite agree with that belief; for certainly Wagner is a much finer musician than Schiller, and a greater poet than Beethoven."

An Indian youth with the suggestive name of Gosling, saw a girl at church, courted her there for two hours, and at the end of the next hour was married to her. An Iowa editress says of this affair: "A man who does all of this courting in two hours, and then marries, misses lots of fun. It's like stuffing himself with peaches and cream in five minutes and then having dyspepsia the rest of the year."

An elephant story, in which the huge beast is made to kill sixteen persons, is going the rounds. What circus the animal is to travel with next season is not yet stated.

Never spread an ill report about your neighbor until you know positively that it is true; and don't do it then if he is a good deal bigger than you are.

It seems a hard thing, that so many dudes should be walking about with nothing to do when the hand-organ man has to pay \$40 for a monkey.

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